

THE NEW YORK HERALD.

WHOLE NO. 10,718.

THE MUNICIPALITIES.

OUR NEW CITY GOVERNMENT.

Organization of the Common Council.

John Brice Elected President of the Aldermanic and J. Wilson Green of the Councilmanic Board.

MAYOR HOFFMAN'S MESSAGE.

UNPARALLELED PROSPERITY OF THE CITY.

INTERESTING STATISTICS.

THE TAX LEVY.

Public Property and Improvements.

Street Cleaning Contractors Must Do Their Duty.

Sanitary Matters to be Attended to.

IMPROVIDENT LEGISLATION TO BE CHECKED.

Inauguration of the City Governments of Philadelphia and Boston.

&c. &c. &c.

The new city government was fully inaugurated yesterday by the organization of its branches, the appointment of the different officers and presentation of Mayor Hoffman's Message. The latter is given below in full.

After the usual business had been transacted Mayor Hoffman made the following appointments:

First Marshal—Thomas H. Tappan, in place of Geo. W. Morton; Second Marshal—George W. Hinckley; Chief Clerk—Colonel Charles O. Joline; First Assistant Clerk—John A. Tracy; Second Assistant Clerk—Daniel S. Hart; Paymaster—G. H. Archibald; Fourth Assistant Clerk—Philip L. Clegg, in place of Henry Hollers.

Record Clerk—Isaac V. French, in place of Charles A. Peoverly.

Interpreter—Frank Ruppert, in place of Adolphus W. Miller.

Inspector of Fossils—Thomas H. Ferria.

Copying Clerk—John Waters.

Sergeant-at-Arms—Edward M. Baldwin.

Fire-Messenger—Francis O'Donnell, in place of Alvin J. Clegg; Post-Messenger—John D. Newman, in place of J. W. C. Ash.

It is understood that no other clerks or attaches are to be connected at present with the Mayor's office, excepted deputed policemen.

New Board of Aldermen.

The Board of Aldermen organized by the election of John Brice President for the ensuing year by a unanimous vote. The favored Alderman returned thanks, promised impartiality, dignity, decorum and harmony, and asked for excuse in error and honest assistance in the discharge of the public duties. The speech was very short, and as modest as it was brief.

The veteran D. T. Valentine was, as usual, elected Clerk; Wm. Walsh, Sergeant-at-Arms, and John Kerrigan, Assistant.

The rules of the Board of 1865 were adopted for the present year.

A committee of the Board of Councilmen informed the Board of their organization.

The Mayor being duly informed of the organization of the Board, he noticed them that he would soon communicate with them.

A protest was presented by Peter McKnight, through the President, against the seat of Alderman Ely, which was placed on file.

The Mayor's Message was then received and read. The following is the text of the document—

MESSAGE OF MAYOR HOFFMAN.

MAYOR'S OFFICE, CITY OF NEW YORK, Jan. 1, 1866.

To THE HONORABLE THE COMMON COUNCIL:

GENTLEMEN—I enter this day upon the discharge of the duties of my high office, duly impressed with a sense of the responsibilities connected with it and of my utter powerlessness, under the laws now in force, to accomplish any great good for the city which has chosen me for its chief executive officer.

The Legislature of the State has divested the Mayor of New York of much of the power which of right belongs and over should belong to him, and until that power shall be restored the people must not complain if successive administrations shall prove to be failures and the municipal government continue to be weak and inefficient.

Concessions, however, of the rectitude of my own intentions, and trusting in God, the Guide and Ruler of all, I begin my duties with the determination to use the little power I have and to exert all my abilities and energies in the great work before me in an earnest effort to do the best I can for the advancement of the interest of the people of the greatestropolis. In this work I sincerely hope to find your co-operation.

The growth and prosperity of this city are beyond parallel. Its resources are immense. Population and wealth per capita are greater than in any other city.

The rich country which surrounds it contributes immensely to its progress and advancement, and before many years the whole island on which it is situated will be crowded with all active and energetic people.

Such a city deserves one of the strongest and most efficient governments which can be given by the legislative power of the State. What that charter should be and what action the Legislature should take in reference to our local affairs, this is not the time to discuss; but in view of the present public opinion of the city and country of New York, the time is now ripe for these stocks in below.

This is attributable to two causes—

1. The public securities of the United States yield a greater rate of interest, and are exempt from local taxation, and therefore command a higher price.

2. The world has been growing distrust in the management of our municipal and county affairs. This distrust you and I must do all we can to remove, and let us confidently hope for success in our efforts.

Economy in administration and a judicious management of city property and a judicious use of our securities as popular as they are safe.

REAL ESTATE OF THE CITY.

I have been unable to obtain any accurate statement of the real estate (improved and unimproved) belonging to the city. But it is my desire that it should be prepared, and under the direction of the Comptroller.

Meanwhile, in view of the present comparative high prices of unimproved real estate, and the present low prices of city securities, I would suggest the propriety, under the direction of the Comptroller, of issuing a Fund of the unimproved real estate of the city and the application of the proceeds to the purchase of the city securities for the account of the sinking fund. Such a course seems to me eminently proper, and I hope will be followed. It will be necessary to have a small sum to cover expenses. It would sell for large prices. It would, after passing into private hands, be improved, and add considerably to the amount of taxable property, and the proceeds of sales would enable the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund to purchase a larger amount of the city securities.

The tax for 1864 and 1865 compared.

The tax for 1864 was \$1,705,092 And for 1865, as I have stated, to

Increase over 1864.

I have caused the following statement to be prepared by the Finance Department, showing the principal items constituting this increase, to which I ask careful attention—

STATEMENT SHOWING THE PRINCIPAL ITEMS OF INCREASE OF TAX IN THE YEAR 1865 OVER THAT OF 1864.

For what purpose.

1864. 1865. Increase. Description.

State. \$1,705,092 \$2,005,960 \$299,868

Police. 2,127,045 2,324,065 196,916

Armoses and drill. 100,000 100,000

Central Park, maintenance and government. 50,000 50,000

Harlem Bridge. 200,000 200,000

Interest on county debt. 102,000 102,000

Public Charities and Correction. 100,000 100,000

Public Instruction. 2,298,568 2,298,568

Levies and taxes re- covered from the bank. 260,506 260,506

Total amount city and county funded debt. \$3,762,040 \$4,133,560 \$371,520

Interest on and redemption of the city debt.

Interest on various city stocks and bonds, exclusive of the Central Park debt.

Interest on city revenue bonds.

Total amount payable from taxation. 1,705,800 2,026,976 \$311,176

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